

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ROME 05746 071846Z

64

ACTION H-03

INFO OCT-01 EUR-08 ISO-00 NSC-06 SS-07 AID-01 /026 W

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R 071725Z APR 76

FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6856

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE ROME 5746

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OREP (O'NEILL, CONGRESSMAN)

SUBJECT: CODEL O'NEILL

1. WHILE SPEAKING ON APRIL 7 WITH THE MFA'S AMERICAN DESK OFFICER (TORELLA) ON ANOTHER SUBJECT, SUBJECT OF SPECIAL PROGRAM FOR CONGRESSMEN CONTE AND MINISH OF CODEL O'NEILL WAS RAISED. APPARENTLY, REQUEST FOR SPECIAL PROGRAMMING WAS TRANSMITTED TO THE MFA BY THE ITALIAN EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON. TORELLA EXPLAINED THAT THE MFA IS UNABLE TO ARRANGE SPECIAL PROGRAMMING FOR VISITING PARLIAMENTARIANS AND HAS SO NOTIFIED THE ITALIAN EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON. BEGIN FYI. BASIS FOR MFA POSITION IS THAT IN ABSENCE OF SPECIFIC REQUESTS, CURRENT DIFFICULT POLITICAL SITUATION MAKES IT VIRTUALLY IMPOSSIBLE FOR MFA TO BE IN THE POSITION OF DECIDING WITH WHICH POLITICIANS AMERICAN CONGRESSIONAL GROUPS (OR OTHER FOREIGN PARLIAMENTARY GROUPS) SHOULD MEET. END FYI. TORELLA ADDED THAT IN ANY EVENT TIMING OF CODEL'S VISIT IN ROME, WHICH COINCIDES WITH LONG EASTER WEEKEND, WOULD MAKE IT EXCEEDINGLY DIFFICULT TO FIND ANY-ONE IN TOWN DURING THAT PERIOD.

2. EMBOFF INDICATED THAT THE EMBASSY IS PERFECTLY WILLING TO TAKE RESPONSIBILITY FOR PROGRAMMING CODELS IN ITALY. ACCORDINGLY, SHOULD CONGRESSMEN CONTE AND MINISH HAVE ANY SPECIFIC REQUESTS, WE WOULD APPRECIATE RECEIVING THEM. UNFORTUNATELY, AS TORELLA HAS POINTED OUT, TIMING OF VISIT MAKES IT EXCEEDINGLY UNLIKELY THAT ANY MEANINGFUL APPOINTMENTS CAN BE

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MADE. (AMONG OTHER THINGS, PARLIAMENT IS SCHEDULED

TO BE IN RECESS FOR THE WEEK AFTER EASTER.)VOLPE

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Message Attributes

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TAGS: OREP, (O'NEILL, CONGRESSMAN)
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